GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5371
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2007
ILLEGAL FIRE-ARMS
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the illegal trade in fire-arms is flourishing in the country including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such illegal fire-arms are being used by criminals and the various State police forces or agencies have failed to check such rising trend; and

(d) if so, the strategies adopted by the Union Government to bring changes in the Arms Act to ban manufacture and use of illegal arms?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) & (b): There is no specific information to suggest that illegal firearms trade is flourishing either in Delhi or in other parts of the country.

(c) & (d): Some of such illegal fire-arms are used in the criminal activities. There is, however, no input to suggest that State Governments have failed to check them. Under the directions of the Government of India, the States and UTs conduct frequent drives to unearth unlicensed/illegal arms. Proper inspection of the licensed dealers and manufacturers of arms is regularly conducted by the States and UTs to check any diversion. The existing provisions in the Arms Act are potent enough to deal with offences involving manufacture and use of illegal arms and bring the offenders to book as the punishment prescribed is stringent ranging from three years to life imprisonment/death penalty.